

REMARKS

The present amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed August 2, 2005, and the Telephone Interview conducted with Examiners Natalie Pass and Joseph Thomas on December 28, 2005 by the undersigned attorney.

Independent claim 28 has been amended pursuant to the discussion and suggestions of the Examiners during the Telephone Interview to better define the invention. To focus the prosecution, all claims but claim 28 have been cancelled. However, applicant reserves the right to pursue the cancelled claims and other claims in continuation applications should applicant subsequently elect to do so.

Applicant wishes to thank Examiners Pass and Thomas for their courtesy shown and their comments and suggestions regarding claim 28 during the Telephone Interview. Only claim 28 was discussed during the Telephone Interview, and it was agreed that with the suggested changes claim 28 would distinguish over the cited Dahod and Lauffer references. Applicant has attempted to incorporate all the suggestions for revision of the language of claim 28 into the claim. Claim 28 is now believed in condition for allowance, although applicant recognizes that additional searching by the Office may reveal prior art not previously considered.

During the Telephone Interview, Examiners Pass and Thomas cautioned against amendment of the claims in a manner not supported by the specification, particularly with respect to the claim element amended to read "aggregating" the monetary contribution from the data inputting user with the monetary contributions from other data inputting users. The term "aggregating" was selected to provide broad coverage and not be limited to merely adding the monetary contributions together, however, the term "aggregating" clearly includes "adding." The specification clearly supports the use of the term "aggregating" in claim 28. For example, the specification includes an example at page 9, line 24 to page 10, line 5 and illustrated in Figure 3, where consumer satisfaction with Telephony Company X is a graphical representation 218 that graphically illustrates the positive dollar amounts for Telephone Company X (shown as \$4.7 million), and consumer dissatisfaction with the company is a graphical representation 220 that graphically illustrates the negative dollar amounts provided by consumers using the present invention (shown as \$1.2 million). At page 10, lines 15-19 it is noted that graphical representation 218 is shown in the form of building blocks to illustrate the dollar value of contributions by consumers to build up the reputation of Telephony Company X

in Figure 4, and similarly, graphical representation 220 is shown in the form of building blocks to illustrate the dollar value of contributions by consumers to build down the reputation of Telephony Company X. At page 14, line 27-page 15, line 22, the specification describes that the CPU in the server may calculate statistical data, such as the average amount of tips that consumers have made for both building up and building down the reputation, and refers to the example of Figure 3 noted above, where a total of \$4.7 million has been expended to build up the reputation of Telephone Company X and a total of \$1.2 million has been expended to build down the reputation of the company. Other statistics, such as the average tip, the minimum and maximum tips, and total number of tips to vote up and down a reputation (see page 15, lines 3-5), are also discussed and clearly provide support for use of "aggregating" the monetary contribution from the data inputting user with the monetary contributions from other data inputting users. Without such "aggregating," statistics such as total contributions, average contributions, etc could not be determined and displayed. Also discussed is the statistic of average monetary contribution as well as totals (see page 15, line 8-14).

All other amendments to claim 28 are also believed fully supported.

Favorable reconsideration of amended claim 28 is requested and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-0258.

If questions remain regarding the present application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney at (206) 628-7739.

Respectfully submitted,

Anil K. Goyal

DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE LLP

By 
George C. Rondeau, Jr.
Registration No. 28,893

Enclosure:
Postcard

2600 Century Square
1501 Fourth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101-1688
Phone: (206) 622-3150
Facsimile: (206) 628-7699